

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Schmeichel, Charles M.) Docket No.: A20-012-01-US
Serial No.: N/A)
Filed: Herewith)
For: TONNEAU COVER TENSION)
ADJUSTER APPARATUS)



#4
6/11/02

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir or Madam:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant in the above-identified application submits this Information Disclosure Statement together with form PTO-1449 enclosed herewith to bring to the Examiner's attention references of which Applicant is aware and which may have some bearing on the examination of this case.

Consideration of each of the listed documents by the Examiner is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of MPEP 609, Applicant respectfully requests that a copy of PTO-1449, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next Official Communication.

Applicant, by submitting the listed documents, does not represent any of the documents to be prior art to this application, and reserves the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish otherwise. Applicant does not represent the listed documents to be material to the examination of this application, but has cited

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. 1.10)

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail" Service under 37 CFR 1.10, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Susan J. Anderson
Print Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

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same to make it clear beyond all doubt that the Duty of Disclosure has been complied with. This disclosure statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been conducted by Applicant or that no other material information exists. See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b). A copy of each of the following identified documents is submitted herewith:

I. United States Patents

	<u>U.S. Patent No.</u>	<u>Issued To</u>	<u>Dated</u>
1	4,144,660	Lamb	03/1979
2	4,730,866	Nett	03/1988
3	4,838,602	Nett	06/1989
4	4,923,240	Swanson	05/1990
5	5,058,652	Wheatley et al.	10/1991
6	5,076,338	Schmeichel et al.	12/1991
7	5,113,611	Rosson	05/1992
8	5,152,574	Tucker	10/1992
9	5,174,353	Schmeichel et al.	12/1992
10	5,251,951	Wheatley	10/1993
11	5,511,843	Isler et al.	04/1996
12	5,522,635	Downey	06/1996
13	5,526,866	Flentge	06/1996
14	5,540,475	Kersting et al.	07/1996
15	5,595,417	Thoman et al.	01/1997
16	5,636,893	Wheatley et al.	06/1997
17	5,653,491	Steffens et al.	08/1997
18	5,688,017	Bennett	11/1997

None of the above-cited documents, either alone or in combination with the prior art of record, is believed to render the claimed invention unpatentable. Accordingly, early allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiencies, additional fees or surcharges necessary in relation to the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 13-4300. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT

Date: May 25, 2001

By: Robert C. Freed
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